

From: Dave Damianakes
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:51am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I wanted to register my opinion about the Microsoft settlement. Just for the record, I am an Apple user. I have known for a long time that Microsoft has had a defacto monopoly and has exercised unfair practices to remain dominant. Until the trial, no windows user that I knew had any idea that there were other operating systems available for Intel machines. In fact, they still are unaware of IBM's OS 2, although Linux has been getting more air play. And since the trial I have listened to venture capitalists and startup owners who have been complaining that money will not be invested in a company if they investors think that MS would not like the software that would be produced, due to its competitiveness. I think more and more, the world are coming to rely on computers, just as they were doing with oil during the Standard oil trial. And I think that any remedy short of breaking the company up is grossly unfair and uncompetitive. (By the way, Microsoft has never been innovative. They buy other, innovative, company's products finish them, poorly by the way.) I think the company should be broken up into a application company, an OS company and a networking (or enterprise) company. It should not remain intact. To do other that break the company up is to encourage its stranglehold on the marketplace.

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Never trust a new endeavor that requires you to buy new clothes.

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